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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

March 3, 1945 No. 100

DUMBARTON OAKS INFORMATION PROGRAM. . . . Agricultural agencies are being asked by the State Department to cooperate in an intensive program during April and May to acquaint the public with the provisions of the Dumbarton Oaks plan and the results of the Yalta conference. More specific details on this will be available shortly.

AAA WHEAT, COTTON, AND PEANUT ALLOTMENTS PROTECTED. . . . Senate Bill No. 338 mentioned in the February 17 Food Calendar as having been passed by the Senate and the House was approved by the President on February 28. This Act protects the cotton and wheat allotments of farmers who shifted to war crops or entered the Armed Forces and the peanut allotments of those who entered the Armed Forces. It also authorizes an upward adjustment of peanut acreage on farms where the acreage is below that indicated by the normal history of the farm.

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LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS. . . . February 26, the House agreed to a resolution providing for an investigation of the marketing system by the House Agriculture Committee; the Senate began debate on the manpower bill which would prohibit deferred 4-F farm workers from leaving their jobs without draft board consent. February 27, the House passed a joint resolution making it clear that the Tydings amendment is to apply if the farm worker's deferment is necessary to agriculture. February 28, the President approved a $6,784,000 appropriation for the census of agriculture; the House began debate on a deficiency appropriation bill which includes funds for FCIC capital stock. The committee's report on the bill indicates that the House Appropriations Committee is investigating CCC.

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On March 10 PLANTING THE EARLY VEGETABLES will be discussed on YOUR HOME AND GARDEN show, by Ernie Moore, Duke DuMars, and H. W. Hochbaum, chairman of the Government's Victory Garden Committee. The half hour that was the FARM AND HOME HOUR will be continued in Your Home and Garden show, over the Blue Network, with information for gardeners by Ernie Moore and Duke DuMars and special items of interest to homemakers by Ruth Van DeMan. The new program will concentrate on service to the general public and discontinue specific information for farmers. The Farm and Home Hour was dropped February 24, after having been on the air continuously six days a week since October, 1928, and weekly since June 19, 1944.

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USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. . . .President's letter on national 4-H Club week--357; Why agricultural price supports--366; "A" awards for 22 food plants--371; Hospitals to get priority in obtaining chicken--377; WFA eastern apple purchase program--382.

OPA RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . Jobber's mark-up on insect screen limited--T-3005; Two actions affecting tobacco buyers--T-3021; Establishment of trade cooperating committees of growers and distributors of fresh fruits and vegetables--T-3015; Wet corn milling by-products for animal and poultry feeds brought under master feeds regulation--T-3008; Ceiling prices for farmers' stock peanuts continued for 1945 crop--T-3014; Dairy products regulation amended--5339; Ration value of lard, shortening, salad and cooking oils, and margarine increased--5345; Notice to growers of proposed maximum prices for white flesh potatoes of 1945 crop--5346; March ration values for processed foods announced-- 5362; March trade point values for rationed meats, fats, and oils, and dairy products--T-3030; Wholesalers may apply for ration point loans for the purpose of storing butter--T-3016.

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THE CONSUMER TIME SHOW on March 10 will be a dramatization of how interstate trade barriers affect prices of food and slow down deliveries. Listeners will take a mental trip with a truck driver and learn what he has to contend with because of the various State regulations on the size of his truck, the weight, license tags, and food quarantine laws. Because of wartime emergencies some of the interstate highway barriers have been relaxed, but they will probably be back in full force after the war. What can be done and what is being done by many states to eliminate interstate trade barriers will be discussed on this program. On the March 17 show, superstitions in foods will be discussed with a St. Patrick's day tie-up.

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A CHART ON SERVICES AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES Interested in Agriculture and Agencies and Institutions Offering Such Services has just come off the press. The purpose of this chart is to provide an over-all picture of the kind of services available to men and women in the Armed Forces, and when, where, and by whom such services are rendered. Distribution is being made to the county level by Extension Service and Farm Security; rather wide distribution is also being made by other agencies of the Department. Single copies are available from the Office of Information.

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TIMELY FARM TOPICS SERIES. . . . How science protects food crops from injurious insects will be discussed by Ernie Moore and Duke DuMars on one side of a platter in this series which will be cut March 13. On the other side, O. S. Aamodt of PISAE will talk about quality forage. Yesterday a platter was cut on which Howard R. Tolley, Chief of BAE, discussed the crop and livestock reporting system on one side and The Food And Agriculture Organization, on the other.

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RECENT USDA PUBLICATIONS. . . . Directory of U. S. Register of Merit Sires and Dams Qualifying Under the National Poultry Improvement Plan 1942-43, Misc. Publication No. 557, 54 pp.; WFA's Annual Report on Tobacco Statistics, 1944, No. CS-12, 95 pp.

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CLOSING DATES FOR APPLYING FOR FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE have been announced by FCIC: Flaxseed: beginning of seeding or March 31, whichever is earlier, except that in North Dakota, Montana, and those counties in Minnesota that lie north of Traverse, Grant, Douglas, Todd, Morrison, Mille Lacs, Kanabec, and Pine, the closing date is the beginning of seeding or April 10, whichever is earlier; Spring wheat, same as for flaxseed; Cotton: Arizona, Florida, and Louisiana, March 25; Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, April 10; Kansas, April 25; for the other States--Alabama, California, Georgia, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas--the closing date varies by areas within the State, on which information can be obtained from State AAA offices.

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BOWLES ON FARM LAND PRICES. . . . In testifying recently before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee, OPA Administrator Chester Bowles made the following comments concerning prospects for a land boom:

"Absence of control over the prices of real estate, urban and rural, is bringing about a boom in this field reminiscent of the lush twenties, a boom which can have a disastrous effect upon an important segment of our economy.

"Farm land prices rose 43 per cent during the period March 1939 to November 1944. For the last year and one half the increase has been at the annual rate of about 14 per cent and it is estimated that by the Spring of this year farm land prices will have increased by 50 per cent since the Spring of 1939."

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PLENTIFUL FOODS. . . . Carrots and oranges are expected to be plentiful throughout the greater part of the country during April; cabbage will remain in abundant supply and eggs will be plentiful in various sections of the country. The winter crop of carrots, heaviest in Texas and California, is estimated at 8.8 million bushels, or one-half million bushels more than the peak year crop of 1943. Remaining plentiful are: Apple butter, citrus marmalade; jellies and grape, plum, and fig jams; dry-mix soups, dry edible peas; soya flour, grits and flakes; wheat flour and bread; macaroni, spaghetti, noodles, and oatmeal.

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A VICTORY GARDENER'S HANDBOOK ON INSECTS AND DISEASES, Misc. Publication No. 525, is being reprinted for 1945 Victory Gardeners. Pictures of about 60 different insects are given with a description of each insect and how to exterminate it. Warnings regarding poison residues, where to get insecticides and fungicides and how to prepare them for garden pest control, and a description of the spraying and dusting equipment needed, are some of the valuable tips contained in this booklet, copies of which can be obtained from the Office of Information.

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A GUIDE TO CONSERVATION PRACTICES IN OHIO is the title of an 8-page leaflet which features the 8 farming practices which are considered most important in Ohio. Plans are to have it multilithed and distributed through the Ohio Triple-A State office for the use of AAA committeemen.

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